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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/903,322	07/10/2001	Philippe A. Charrin	156906-0008	7395
29000	7590	01/11/2005		
IRELL & MANELLA LLP 1800 AVENUE OF THE STARS SUITE 900 LOS ANGELES, CA 90067				EXAMINER FRANKLIN, JAMARA ALZAIDA
				ART UNIT 2876 PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 01/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/903,322	CHARRIN, PHILIPPE A.	
	Examiner Jamara A. Franklin	Art Unit 2876	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-41 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 24-31 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-23 and 32-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 10 July 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 7/01 and 1/02.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-5, 8, 9, 12-17, 19, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Dabrowski (US 5,635,696).

Dabrowski teaches a multi-mode card reader, comprising:

a card reader interface (magnetic card printed circuit board 70 and magnetic card sensors 96 and 97);

a bill acceptor interface (optical currency sensor 62 and currency entry sensor 91 and 92); and

a controller (central processing unit printed circuit board 52 and microchip 54) connected to said card reader interface, said bill acceptor interface, and a host interface (input/output printed circuit board 56), said controller allowing transfer of cash transaction data from said bill acceptor interface to said host interface when said cash transaction data is received from said bill acceptor interface and said controller is in a first mode, and allowing transfer of cashless transaction data from said card reader interface to said host interface when said cashless

transaction data is received from said card reader interface and said controller is in a second mode (col. 5, lines 5-65);

the reader further comprising a relay (currency gate 100), wherein said relay passes through cash transaction data from said bill acceptor interface to said host interface when in a first position, and prevents cash transaction data from passing from said bill acceptor interface to said host interface when in a second position;

the reader wherein said host interface comprises a protocol translator, said protocol translator converting cash transaction data from a bill validator to a protocol used by a host device connected to said host interface;

the reader wherein said relay switches from said first position to said second position when said card reader interface detects insertion of a portable electronic card;

the reader wherein said bill acceptor data interface and said host interface each comprise a universal asynchronous receiver/transceiver (UART);

the reader wherein said bill acceptor interface receives said cash transaction data according to a B.V. bill validator protocol; and

the reader wherein said host interface is connected to an electronic gaming machine (col. 3, lines 6-24).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person

having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 6, 7, 18, 32, 33, and 35-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dabrowski in view of Bell et al. (US 5,919,091) (hereinafter referred to as 'Bell').

The teachings of Dabrowski have been discussed above.

Dabrowski lacks the teaching of the card reader interface being configured to read smart cards.

Bell teaches a multi-mode card reader comprising:

a card reader interface configured to read smart cards (col. 4, lines 64-67).

One of ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized that configuring the Dabrowski invention to read smart cards would have been beneficial for accommodating the use of the technologically-advanced smart card in public use of common electronic financial transactions. Therefore, it would have been obvious, at the time the invention was made, to modify the teachings of Dabrowski with the configuration for reading a smart card as taught by Bell to aid in the secure transfer of electronic cash.

5. Claims 10, 11, 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dabrowski in view of Charrin (US 6,577,733).

The teachings of Dabrowski have been discussed above.

Dabrowski lacks the teaching of the card reader comprising a secured internal meter.

Charrin teaches a card reader comprising:

a secured internal meter wherein said secured internal meter is contained with a security

and authentication module (SAM) (col. 9, lines 38-43 and col. 10, lines 25-44).

One of ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized that a secured internal meter would have been beneficial to the invention of Dabrowski for protecting against fraudulent usage of stored card data by requiring card authentication. Therefore, it would have been obvious, at the time the invention was made, to modify the teachings of Dabrowski with the aforementioned teachings of Charrin to secure personal information on the card.

6. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dabrowski in view of Rademacher (US 5,450,938).

The teachings of Dabrowski have been discussed above.

Dabrowski lacks the teaching of the cash transaction data received at said bill acceptor interface used to credit a card inserted in said card reader interface.

Rademacher teaches a multi-mode card reader wherein cash transaction data received at said bill acceptor interface is used to credit a card inserted in said card reader interface (col. 7, line 52-col. 8, line 3).

One of ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized that crediting the card using bills inserted into the multi-mode reader would have been beneficial for giving the multi-mode reader a wider range of usages that may accommodate the user's needs and habits. Therefore, it would have been obvious, at the time the invention was made, to modify the teachings of Dabrowski with the aforementioned teaching of Rademacher.

7. Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dabrowski/Bell as applied to claim 32 above, and further in view of Rademacher.

The teachings of Dabrowski/Bell have been discussed above.

Dabrowski/Bell lack the teaching of the cash transaction data received at said bill acceptor interface used to credit a card inserted in said card reader interface.

The teachings of Rademacher have been discussed above.

One of ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized that crediting the card using bills inserted into the multi-mode reader would have been beneficial for giving the multi-mode reader a wider range of usages that may accommodate the user's needs and habits.

Therefore, it would have been obvious, at the time the invention was made, to modify the teachings of Dabrowski/Bell with the aforementioned teaching of Rademacher.

8. Claim 41 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dabrowski/Bell as applied to claim 32 above, and further in view of Charrin.

The teachings of Dabrowski/Bell have been discussed above.

Dabrowski/Bell lack the teaching of the card reader comprising a secured internal meter.

The teachings of Charrin have been discussed above.

One of ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized that a secured internal meter would have been beneficial to the invention of Dabrowski/Bell for protecting against fraudulent usage of stored card data by requiring card authentication. Therefore, it would have been obvious, at the time the invention was made, to modify the teachings of Dabrowski/Bell with the aforementioned teachings of Charrin to secure personal information on the card.

Allowable Subject Matter

9. Claims 24-31 are allowed.

10. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: although the prior art of record, particularly the Dabrowski invention teaches a bill acceptor coupled with a card reader, the prior art of record fails to teach transmitting cash transaction data, from the receipt of cash at the bill acceptor, to the card reader and then selecting between at least a cash mode and a cashless mode.

Conclusion

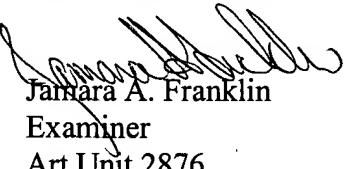
11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Ota et al. (US 6,296,182) teach a banknote processing device with card reader/writer function.

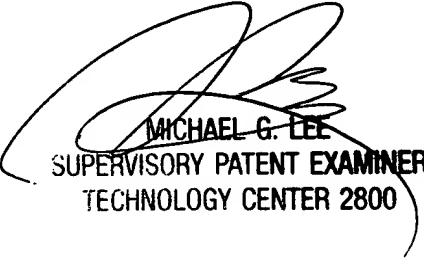
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jamara A. Franklin whose telephone number is (571) 272-2389. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:00am to 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on (571) 272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Jamara A. Franklin
Examiner
Art Unit 2876

JAF
January 5, 2005


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